



Fire Life Safety Bulletin

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WMATA TUNNEL FAN CONTROLS

August 11, 2020

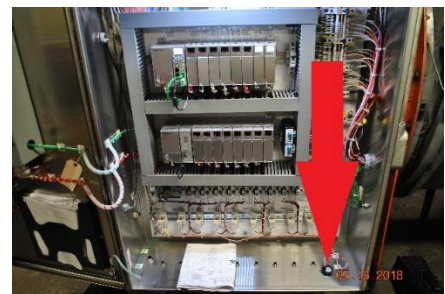
WMATA TUNNEL FAN CONTROLS UPDATE

The WMATA Rail Tunnel Fan Controls are being updated with two additional safety features—an amber warning beacon and buzzer. These safety features will be incorporated into new control boxes. The amber warning light will be positioned on the top of the box and the speaker for the buzzer is at the bottom right. The function of these new warning devices is to notify anyone in the fan room that the fans are starting up. These devices do not change the functions of the fans.

The Incident Commander should contact the ROCC directly or through the Fire Liaison with the ventilation plan for the incident. This plan should identify which direction the smoke or airborne contaminants should travel to exit the tunnel (s) or station(s), whether the fans should be in supply or exhaust mode. The fans in each fan room can only be in one mode or the other. They cannot be split.

The control functions of the fans have not changed. They are operated either locally or by remote (ROCC). The preferred operation is remote by the Rail Operations Control Center (ROCC). If the fans do not respond remotely, local control should be activated. If the fans are operated locally, they must be returned to remote control at the conclusion of incident use. Failure to do so will render the fans inoperative.

The fan control boxes have improved labeling, identifying the fan shaft ID, and which section of tunnel it serves



For additional information, contact one of the Office of Emergency Management Fire/Life Safety Officers:

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